

MEETING RECORD

NAME OF GROUP: Urban Design Committee

DATE, TIME AND

PLACE OF MEETING: Wednesday, August 3, 2005, 3:00 p.m., Room 206, County-City Building, 2nd Floor, 555 South 10th Street, Lincoln, Nebraska

MEMBERS AND OTHERS

IN ATTENDANCE:

Members: Mike Eckert, JoAnne Kissel, Dennis Scheer and Gordon, Scholz; (Third World Oforah, Scott Sullivan and Kim Todd absent).

Others: Eileen Bergt (landscape architect); Dan Wislowski (LES); Ed Zimmer, Teresa McKinstry and Dave Gaspers of the Planning Department.

STATED PURPOSE OF MEETING:

Regular Urban Design Committee Meeting

Acting chair Mike Eckert called the meeting to order.

Scheer moved approval of the minutes of the regular meetings held April 6, 2005 and July 6, 2005, seconded by Kissel. Motion for approval carried 4-0: Eckert, Kissel, Scheer and Scholz voting 'yes'; Oforah, Sullivan and Todd absent.

Landscape Plan for Les Substation, 17th & Holdrege

Eileen Bergt presented a site plan for a new substation at 17th and Holdrege, which was previously University property. There is some existing plantings on 17th Street. Some of those will remain, and more will be added. There is an existing planting of burning bush. The drive will remain. Black Hills Spruce will screen the north and south side of the substation. The bike trail that is part of the Antelope Valley project is on the west side. There is five feet or so between the fence and the trail. There will be plantings. The project will be phased. Phase one is the north and east side. The south side will be done with construction this fall, so probably plant in the spring. The west side will be done with Antelope Valley.

Kissel noted that this is heavily planted. Dan Wislowski noted that normally they start with bare ground. This already has a lot of planting.

Bergt noted that LES has a maintenance crew that takes care of the plantings. Irrigation will be installed so the plants can be watered.

Scholz inquired about the fence height. Wislowski replied that the fence will be 7 foot high chain link with one foot of barbed wire.

Specifics of the plant species was discussed, including but not limited to shrub roses, lilac, sumac, oak and ash trees and burning bush.

Eckert commented that typically LES does not do this much screening on their substations. Wislowski replied that it is a security issue. They prefer not to have a large tree next to the substation so someone can climb the

tree and hop the fence.

Ed Zimmer commented on the bike trail. It seems there will be a lot of people going down the trail. Bergt replied there is only five feet between the trail and the fence. The fence is set and can't be moved.

Scheer noted a vine could probably be grown on the fence but it would probably create a maintenance mess. Wislowski agreed. There is also a grounding issue.

Scholz asked how much mulching would be done. Bergt replied that it will be mulched under the plantings and turf around the trees.

Scholz inquired if there is a security issue. Bergt doesn't believe the trees are close enough to the sidewalk to be an issue. There are also a lot of lights on the substations.

Scheer would suspect that a good majority of the traffic would be on the west.

Scholz wondered where the curb line is on Holdrege. Bergt replied there is no room for landscaping there.

Kissel moved approval, seconded by Scholz. Motion for approval carried 4-0: Eckert, Kissel, Scheer and Scholz voting 'yes'; Oforah, Sullivan and Todd absent.

Miscellaneous

Zimmer noted that Olsson Associates contacted him about 48th & "O" improvements for the September 2005 agenda. Eckert commented that he met with Darl Naumann of Economic Development and he believes an agreement for the north side will be finalized soon.

Zimmer stated that the Downtown Master Plan is continuing to progress. Marvin Krout is interested in downtown design standards but they must move forward with the plan. There will be a complicated overlay of Urban Design, Capitol Environs and Historic Preservation Commission, but they are well served. Scholz asked if there had been any major issues or changes. Zimmer replied that he is not aware of any. Land uses would be shown moving from Downtown to Antelope Valley.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:40 p.m.